

Conclusions

- After rapidly increasing since the 1980s, the annual rate of death due to HIV infection peaked in 1995, decreased through 1997, and leveled after 1998.
- HIV infection remains a leading cause of death among persons 25 to 44 years old, particularly blacks and Hispanics.
- Persons dying of HIV infection increasingly consist of females, blacks (a majority since 1997), and residents of the South.